

assistance to anyone in need, without regard to his own sacrifice. Major Barnes served as a father figure, guide and mentor to numerous young military recruits, and was like an uncle to the children of close friends. For many years, Major Barnes sponsored a child from Indonesia, sending money and letters of encouragement on a regular basis. Recently, Major Barnes was part of a successful effort to save the life of a severely injured child in Afghanistan.

His compassion, unwavering integrity and professional excellence are documented in the numerous military commendations he received, including the California Medal of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Humanitarian Service Award, Armed Forces Reserve Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Award.

Major Barnes is survived by his mother, Grace Barnes-Filo; his father, Harold Barnes; his sisters, Therese Rose Barnes, Jennifer Barnes, and Julie Keating; And, his nephew Timothy and niece, McKenzie. I also extend my condolences to his extended family members and many close friends.

Madam Speaker, and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Major Rocco Martin Barnes, whose heroic actions, kindness, generous spirit and love for those closest to him will be remembered always. Major Barnes was a courageous United States soldier, and an exceptional human being. His life, gone too soon, was framed by his great love for family, friends and country. The significant sacrifice, service, courage that defined the life of Major Barnes will be honored and remembered by the entire Cleveland community, and our Country.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING BILL RUEGSEGGER FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Bill Ruegsegger showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Bill Ruegsegger was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Bill Ruegsegger always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Bill Ruegsegger on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

TRIBUTE TO ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA R.C. CHURCH

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an out-

standing religious institution, St. Anthony of Padua R.C. Church in Paterson, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 100th Anniversary of dedicated service to its parishioners, and by extension, the greater community.

It is only fitting that St. Anthony of Padua R.C. Church Parish be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for the spiritual home it has provided to American families, especially those just embarking on their path to the American dream, and the dedication to the entire community that helps keep this deeply rooted parish family growing towards the future.

On December 8, 1909, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, Salesian Father John Focacci, founding pastor, celebrated the first Mass in a small wooden building on Beech Street, Paterson. The parish was then called Saint Anthony of Padua Mission Church. From this humble beginning, Saint Anthony's ministered to the needs of a growing Italian immigrant population in the Sandy Hill section. Over the years, Saint Anthony's developed into a modern ecclesiastical and educational complex, the result of many sacrifices, hard work and dedication of its loyal parishioners.

Marking its 100th anniversary, Saint Anthony's finds itself once again tending to the spiritual and material needs of immigrants, this time from the Caribbean and Central and South America, seeking to realize the American Dream, parish services now echo English, Italian, and Hispanic voices, and trilingual choirs enrich the festive liturgies.

The parish has built its tradition by giving its parishioners spiritual roots in their neighborhood, providing a deep sense of community to those who have grown in the Church, receiving their sacraments there, as well as welcoming newcomers to the surrounding area. The St. Bonaventure's parish family has expanded throughout the years to include many parishioners who have moved out of the neighborhood, but return with their families to worship at the parish. I am certain that St. Anthony of Padua R.C. Church will continue to thrive and enrich not only those who worship there but so many others in need throughout the area.

The Salesian Fathers have withdrawn from the parish after more than a century of service. St. Anthony School closed its doors after 85 years as an educational Mecca to the neighborhood. Diocesan clergy now serve for the first time. Maintaining the parish's physical plant, especially the beauty of the House of God, is a constant financial concern. Despite these challenges, Saint Anthony's continues undeterred in its mission, facing the uncertain future with hope and confidence in the parish and their faith. St. Anthony's remains a living monument to those who came before and those who are still here.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the efforts of wonderful, thriving communities like St. Anthony of Padua R.C. Church Parish.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join all of the parishioners and clergy of St. Anthony of Padua R.C. Church Parish, all those whose faith has been enriched throughout the years, and me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of St. Anthony of Padua R.C. Church Parish to the church community and beyond.

HALL OF FAMER HAL MCCOY LEAVES THE PRESS BOX

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, as the Cincinnati Reds wind down their 2009 season, many in Dayton and southwest Ohio are feeling a sense of loss for the departure of the Reds' best known sports writer, Hal McCoy, who retires next week.

To call Hal McCoy an institution in sports journalism is somehow not giving him due credit. Hal McCoy is the Reds to the readers of the Dayton Daily News. He's been on the Reds' beat for 37 years—longer than any other sports reporter following a single team.

His "Real McCoy" blog on the Dayton Daily News site notes "McCoy has covered more than 7,000 major-league baseball games, written close to 18,000 baseball stories and eaten enough hot dogs to give Babe Ruth indigestion."

An honors graduate from Kent State University's School of Journalism, Hal McCoy has 43 Ohio and national writing awards. Most appropriately, he is also a member of the writer's wing of the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY.

Hal McCoy's retirement comes as the Dayton Daily News ceases its special reporting on the Cincinnati Reds due to budget limitations. As McCoy put it, "I'll finish the season covering the Reds and baseball, the last hurrah, then say my final goodbyes. They're putting me out to pasture. I only wish it was center field."

While he notes retirement is not something he looks forward to, Hal McCoy admits he may still do some writing for the Dayton Daily News. We hope so. Good luck and thanks for everything, Hal.

HONORING STANLEY L. STRAUGHTER

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my friend Stanley L. Straughter, Chairman of the Mayor's Commission on African and Caribbean Immigrant Affairs. Throughout his thirty year career, Stanley has been dedicated to the cause of international development and the betterment of those living in his community.

Having lived and worked in various places around the world, including Africa, Asia, Russia, and the Caribbean, Stanley has a long history of working with foreign nations to promote economic development. Stanley has worked with foreign governments on transparency and financial issues, trade policy, and foreign direct investment. Among his many roles, Stanley serves as an advisor to the World Conference of Mayors, as Senior Finance Advisor to Niger and Togo, and as a Senior Advisor to the African Development Bank.

In addition to Stanley's exceptional work in international development, he is also a committed member of other groups and organizations. Stanley is a member of various national